

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:  
a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix;  
~~an optional plasticizing agent; and~~  
1 wt-% to 60 wt-% hydrophilic organic microparticles, which when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 10 microns or less; ~~and~~  
~~wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected and combined in amounts to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition, which mineral oil in an amount effective to render the composition sufficiently nonadherent such that when coated on a substrate it displays a 180° peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.~~
2. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof.
- 3-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 4 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 1 micron or less.

6. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 5 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 0.5 micron or less.
7. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises 1 to 225 apertures per square centimeter.
8. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises apertures having an average opening size of 0.1 millimeter to 0.5 centimeter.
9. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise an amine-containing organic polymer.
10. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 9 wherein the amine-containing organic polymer microparticles comprise a quaternary ammonium salt of an organic polymer.
11. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 10 wherein the microparticles comprise a cationic homopolymer of the methyl chloride quaternary salt of 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl methacrylate.
12. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise a copolymer of sodium acrylate and acrylic acid.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition further comprises a bioactive agent.

15. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 14 wherein the bioactive agent is an antimicrobial agent.
16. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the polymer composition further comprises one or more additional additives.
17. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a mixture of two or more polymers.
18. (Currently Amended) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles are mineral oil is present in an amount of at least 1 wt-% to 60 wt-%, based on the total weight of the polymer composition.
19. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:
  - a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;
  - an optional plasticizing agent; and
  - 1 wt-% to 60 wt-% hydrophilic microparticles comprising an amine-containing organic polymer, wherein when the microparticles are in a nonhydrated form they have an average particle size of 10 microns or less; and
  - wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected and combined in amounts to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition, which mineral oil in an amount effective to render the composition sufficiently nonadherent such that when coated on a substrate it displays a 180° peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.

20. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:

a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;

~~an optional plasticizing agent; and~~

1 wt-% to 60 wt-% hydrophilic microparticles comprising a sodium polyacrylate copolymer, wherein when the microparticles are in a nonhydrated form they have an average particle size of 10 microns or less; and

~~wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected and combined in amounts to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition, which mineral oil in an amount effective to render the composition sufficiently nonadherent such that when coated on a substrate it displays a 180° peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.~~

21. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 1 to the wound.

22. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 19 to the wound.

23. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 20 to the wound.

24. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a polyisobutylene, polyethylene-propylene rubber, polyethylene-propylene diene-modified rubber, polyisoprene, styrene-isoprene-styrene, styrene-butadiene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-propylene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene, or combinations thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 24 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene.
26. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of any of claims 1, 19, or 20 wherein the wound dressing is swollen.
27. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 26 to a wound.
28. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising: applying the wound dressing of any of claims 1, 19, or 20 to the wound; and swelling the wound dressing.
29. (New) The wound dressing of claim 19 wherein the mineral oil is present in an amount of at least 60 wt-%, based on the total weight of the polymer composition.
30. (New) The wound dressing of claim 20 wherein the mineral oil is present in an amount of at least 60 wt-%, based on the total weight of the polymer composition.